#### **Domestic Violence**

As a Victim of Domestic Violence you have the right to:

- Obtain a copy of the police report of your case through the Wyoming Department of Public Safety Records Unit
- File a petition requesting a personal protection order to protect you or other members of your household from domestic abuse which could include restraining or enjoining the abuser from doing the following:
  - Entering onto your premises
  - Assaulting, beating, attacking, molesting, or wounding you
  - Threatening to kill or injure you or another person Removing minor children from you except as other wise authorized by court order
  - Stalking you
  - Purchasing/possessing a firearm
  - Interfering with efforts to remove your children or property from premises
  - Engaging in any act that interferes with your personal liberty or causes reasonable apprehension of violence
  - Having access to records concerning a child in common that would inform the abuser of you or your child's address, telephone, or place of employment.
- Go to court and request a hearing if the abuser has or is violating a PPO and has not been arrested

The City or State Prosecuting Agency will decide if charges will be filed. You cannot have the charges dismissed and must appear if subpoenaed. While you cannot decide what happens to your case, you do have rights under the Victim Rights Act and can have your opinion considered. The assailant will be held until his/her charge is reviewed by a judge or magistrate and bond is set. If the defendant is released on bond, a no-contact condition may be imposed. If the assailant is charged and remains in custody, he/she will be arraigned by video, usually by the afternoon of the next working day. Prosecution and conviction do not always mean additional jail time for the defendant.

### The procedures to be followed in exercising your rights may be different, depending on the agency that is handling your case.

- If your case is charged as a felony or a state misdemeanor or the defendant is a juvenile, the Kent County Prosecutor's Office will handle your case. Information will be sent to you from the Victim Witness Unit about your rights and the person you should contact with questions.
- If your case is charged as a city misdemeanor, it will be handled by the Wyoming City Attorney.

\*\*\*keep the agency informed of your current address and phone number\*\*\*

#### **Personal Protection Order**

A personal protection order, sometimes referred to as a PPO, is an order which protects a person from harassment, assault or stalking from another person in which there has been a domestic relationship between parties. This may also include protection against stalking as defined under MCLA 740.41H&I. *Note: A PPO is not intended for disputes concerning your neighbors or acquaintances.* 

For more information contact: 17th Circuit Court— Family Division 180 Ottawa Ave NW, Grand Rapids (616)632-5067

Walk-in hours: 8:30am to 4:45pm

#### **NO-CONTACT ORDER**

The no-contact order is a condition of bond that the judge may place on the defendant in a criminal case. It means that the defendant is ordered not to contact the victim in any way while he/she is on bond. It is not a guarantee of safety, but does allow the court to take action if it is violated. It is ordered for your protection and only the judge can change or remove it. Do not contact the defendant yourself. If you want to find out if the defendant in your case has a no-contact condition or you have questions about it, you may call:

#### 62-A District Court (Wyoming) (616) 530-7384

#### REMOVAL OF THE NO-CONTACT ORDER

The no-contact provision of the bond order will remain in effect as long as the defendant is on bond (usually until sentence or dismissal of the case). The defendant is subject to court action unless the assigned judge has ordered the removal of the condition. No one else has the authority to make that decision. A no-contact condition may also be ordered as part of any probation sentence imposed. You should contact the numbers listed for specific assigned probation officer.

#### **NO-CONTACT VIOLATION**

If the defendant tries to contact you **CALL THE POLICE IMMEDI- ATELY**. Inform the police that you have a no-contact order from the court. If they are unable to arrest him/her, file a police report about the violation. You may also contact the Court at the number above to report the violation.

#### **Sexual Assault Rights**

If you are the victim of sexual assault you are encouraged to seek treatment. Shock and general aches and pains from the assault may be difficult to distinguish from a serious injury. You will also be given important information about STDs and pregnancy. Another important reason to receive immediate medical attention is to collect physical evidence for a criminal investigation.

As the victim of a Sexual Assault you have certain rights and access to information including:

- Contact information for the officer investigating the case
- Status of the case
- Whether the case has been submitted to the prosecutor for review
- If closed, the documented reason for closure
- When the sexual assault evidence kit was submitted to the laboratory
- Whether DNA profile was obtained and or if the suspect information has been entered into any data bank
- Where there is a match between DNA profile of suspect to data bank profile
- Informational handout about meaning of the testing results
- A Sexual Assault Examination Kit administered without being required to participate in the criminal justice system and/or to cooperate with law enforcement
- A Sexual Assault Examination Kit administered at no cost
- The right to request information about the investigation of the case and DNA testing results

The release of certain information is contingent on its availability and whether or not release of the information could compromise an open investigation.

**Note:** If you are harassed or intimidated by anyone regarding your case, contact the Wyoming Police Investigative Division for instructions on how to request action against the person threatening or harassing you.

#### Crime Victim Rights Information

Officer	PIN #
Incident #	

If a defendant is arrested in your case the prosecution could be handled by one of the following:

Wyoming City Attorney's Office 1799 R W Berends SW Wyoming, Michigan 49519 (616)249-3421

Kent County Prosecutor's Office 180 Ottawa NW Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 (616)632-6710

For information regarding your case, which office is prosecuting or if you would like to be notified of an arrest call:

Wyoming Department of Public Safety (616) 530-7300

To determine if a person is in custody, you may call:

Kent County Sheriff's Office (616) 632-6301

or visit:

https://www.accesskent.com/InmateLookup/

You can obtain a copy of the police report for your case Monday—Thursday 8am-4:30pm from our Records Unit.

As the victim of a crime you have the right to the following information:

The availability of emergency and medical services if applicable.

Those services are:

Spectrum Butterworth Campus

100 Michigan NE

**Spectrum Blodgett Campus** 

1840 Wealthy SE

**Metropolitan Hospital** 

5900 Byron Center Ave SW

St. Mary's Hospital

200 Jefferson SE

#### Resources:

Personal Protection Orders	616-632-5071
Victim-Witness Unit	616-632-5400
Domestic Crisis Center	616-451-2744
YWCA Counseling Center	616-459-4652
YWCA Sexual Assault Crisis Line (24hr)	616-776-7273
62-A District Court (Wyoming)	616-530-7384
Safe Haven Ministries	616-452-6664

If your case involves an undocumented individual you can register using the following hyperlink to obtain notification regarding the criminal aliens release from custody at:

http://www.ice.gov/victim-notification/



### THIS INFORMATION IS PROVIDED TO ASSIST YOU IN KNOWING YOUR RIGHTS AS THE VICTIM OF A CRIME.

As a victim you may be entitled to compensation. For information contact:

**Crime Victim's Services Commission** 

**Capitol View Building** 

201 Townsend St.

PO Box 30195

Lansing, MI 48909

1-517-373-7373

www.michigan.gov/crimevictims



The Wyoming Department of Public Safety is nationally accredited by CALEA

## WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



# VICTIM RIGHTS INFORMATION

WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

2300 DEHOOP AVE SW

WYOMING, MI 49509

(616)530-7300

Chief James E. Carmody

Director of Police and Fire Services